

## Administrative Memo

**Date:** February 28, 2022  
**To:** School Administrators  
**From:** Barton A. Washer, Interim Assistant Commissioner, Office of College and Career Readiness  
**Subject:** CCR-21-010 — Missouri Postsecondary Advising Initiative Application

The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) is pleased to reaffirm its partnership with rootEd Alliance to launch Phase 2 of the Missouri Postsecondary Advising Initiative (MPAI). The initiative, funded in part by federal COVID relief dollars, offers dedicated advisors to rural high schools who will work with school counselors to provide students individualized college and career planning support.

As with Phase 1, Phase 2 will continue working toward providing a local MPAI advisor for high school students in rural communities. These advisors work exclusively with students in their home schools, helping them make informed decisions about how to be successful in their postsecondary paths. Whether students directly enter the workforce, pursue postsecondary education or training, or enter the military upon graduation, the MPAI advisors help students achieve success after high school.

For more information and to review the list of schools eligible for this program, please visit the [MPAI webpage](#). Applications must be submitted by March 18, 2022. Schools will be selected based on COVID-19 impact in the community, rural status, and geography.

To learn more about the MPAI, contact Chrissy Bashore at [Chrissy.Bashore@dese.mo.gov](mailto:Chrissy.Bashore@dese.mo.gov) or 573-751-0857. For more information about funding supporting this effort, contact Chris Neale at [Chris.Neale@dese.mo.gov](mailto:Chris.Neale@dese.mo.gov) or 573-751-0077.